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SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" பல ஆண்டுகளாக உதவிச் செயலாள ராக இருக்கின்ற ஸ்ரீ ஹனுமந்தப்பா அவர்கள் ஸ்ரீ சௌத்தரி வருவதற்கு முன்னாலிருந்து பயிற்சி பெற்றிருப்பதால், அவரை ஏன் செயலாளர் பதவிக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை ? அவர் பிராம்மணரல்லாதார் என்ற ஒரு காரணத்தினாலா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I quite agree with the hon. Member's appraisement of Mr. Hanumanthappa. I submit that it is not proper to raise this subject on the floor of the House and to discuss persons on the staff in this manner during question hour, especially keeping them in their seats here."

Acquisition of lands for the lignite project.

* 214 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state what extent of land in R.S. No. 151/12-C of Thandavankuppam village, Vriddhachalam taluk, South Arcot district, has been acquired for the purpose of the lignite mines?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Action is pending to acquire 1·45 acres of land in R.S. No. 151/12 C, of Thandavankuppam for purposes of the lignite project."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" தாண்டவன்குப்பத்திலுள்ள ரெவினியூ ஸர்வே நெ. 151–12 C நிலத்தை ஜாரி செய்துகொள்ளுவதற்கு முன்பாகவே, ஒரு ஆண்டுக்கு முன் பழுப்பு நிலக்கரிச் சுரங்கத்திற்கு சமீபத்திலுள்ள விவசாய மக்கள் நிலங்களைப் பயிரிட முடியாத அளவுக்கு ஆக்கிரமித்துவிட்டார்கள் என்று அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியுமா ? ஏன் அப்படி செய்யப்பட்டது ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The Government are aware of the facts mentioned by the hon. Member. But it was unavoidable. The earth that was dug out of the lignite mine has to be dumped somewhere. We are trying to get land by acquisition and the parties concerned will be paid enough compensation for the land together with interest at 6 per cent on the compensation from the date of taking possession to the date of payment of the compensation. I submit that they are only dry lands according to Government information. Therefore, no hardship will be experienced by the parties either in the matter of cultivation or compensation."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" In today's agenda we find four such questions dealing with the same subject. Previously also, there have been a number of questions on this subject, viz., the Neyveli project administration. We gather from all these that there is some real trouble going on. Will the Hon. Minister revet his attention to this subject and see how this difficulty could be got over?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Whenever there is a big scheme either relating to buildings, construction of reservoirs or dams or any mining operation, inconveniences are bound to follow and we have to choose the lesser of the two evils in every such matter."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the magnitude of the problem that is before the House and in view of the numerous questions that have been inundating this House on this subject, will the Hon. Speaker be pleased to grant a half-hour debate on this issue? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Already the House is sitting from 9-30 to 5-30 with a break for lunch. So I do not think there will be time for a half-hour debate."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" If hon. Members will just listen to my answers, they will be convinced that no injustice is involved here and that a half-hour debate is not necessary. I request them to have a little patience and hear the answer."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" I believe the Hon. Speaker will sympathise with the feelings expressed by the Members coming from that district who have personal experience of the issue. I request the Hon. Speaker to be gracious enough to concede our request."

MR. SPEAKER :—" How is it possible to concede your request? Already we are sitting till 5-30. However, if a similar question comes up later, I shall consider the question of granting a half-hour debate on this subject."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The Hon. Minister said that no hardship will be caused as the Government were giving 6 per cent interest. Are the Government aware that this 6 per cent interest will not be an adequate compensation for the inordinate delay in granting compensation after taking the lands away many years ago? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" That was not the only factor. That was one of the benefits."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட நிலங்களுக்குப் பதிலாக, நிலமில்லாத ஏழைகளுக்கும், நிலங்களை இழந்த ஏழை விவசாயிகளுக்கும், வேறு நிலங்களைக் கொடுக்க சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறதா ?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" This is a question that is put subsequently. I shall answer it later."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the fact that only the backward class communities and those belonging to the scheduled castes are affected and disturbed by these mining operations, will the Hon. Speaker be pleased to allot a half-hour debate on this subject at least on the last day of this Session? "

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Mr. SPEAKER :—" Because of the mention of 'scheduled castes' does the hon. Member want me to allow a half-hour debate? " (Laughter.)

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" It is really true and that is the present position, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" While I fully sympathise with those who are put to hardship, I feel it is not possible to allow a half-hour debate as we are already sitting till 5-30 p.m. Anyway, when the Appropriation Bill is taken up for consideration, hon. Members may say what they want to say on this subject. I think that will be better."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" As this is a very important matter, I request the Hon. Speaker to allow a half-hour debate exclusively to discuss this subject."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" It is not possible."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, can we discuss this subject on a cut motion to some of the Demands, like the Community Project? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" It depends upon the House. If the hon. Members so wish, they can expedite the consideration of the other Demands so that we may reach that Demand."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I make an appeal to hon. Members? This is a matter in which we are concerned about the fate and difficulties of the ordinary peasantry. Instead of having a half-hour debate on this subject on the floor of the House, we can leave the matter for dicussion between the hon. Members coming from that area and the Hon. Minister concerned. I think that will be much more useful than having a half-hour debate here."

Collection of enhanced profession-tax by the Panchayat Board, Tiruturaipundi.

* 215 *Q.*—Sri C. KANDASAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state— 9-30 a.m.

(*a*) whether the District Collector of Tanjore in his order, dated 2nd September 1953, has stayed the collection of profession and property-tax at enhanced rates recently ordered by the Panchayat Board, Tiruturaipundi, Tanjore district; and

(*b*) if so, what the reasons are for the same?

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Collector apprehended that there would be a riot or affray if the panchayat was allowed to collect taxes as fixed by it. But subsequently, that stay order was vacated."

Sri C. KANDASAMY :—" சாதாரணமாக வரி விதிக்கப்படுவதற்கு 'லோகல் போர்டு ஆக்டின்' கீழ் சில சட்ட திட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன.